# 1-Bullet Critic Assails

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# CIA Probe

By WENDELL RAWLS Jr.
*Inquirer Staff Writer*

PITTSBURGH—The first serious criticism of the tone and the ethics of the Rockefeller Commission's report on its investigation of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has surfaced here with a witness charging that his testimony was fraudulently misrepresented.

Dr. Cyril H. Wecht, Allegheny County coroner and a leading proponent of the theory that two gunmen assassinated President John F. Kennedy, says selected portions of his five-hour testimony were taken out of context and distorted to bolster the lone-gunman theory of the assassination in the Warren Commission Report.

"For the (Rockefeller) commission to seize on a purely secondary aspect of my views, namely that I see no evidence for gunmen in front of the President, to bolster its claims that the Warren Report is correct, and that therefore the CIA was not involved," Dr. Wecht says "is so absurd a nonsequitur as to suggest that the commission or its staff deliberately sought to misreprent my testimony."

Also, Dr. Wecht says, he is "outraged" that the commission has refused to make his testimony available to the public and "refuses even to make a copy available to me."

## *Response Made*

In response to Dr. Wecht's criticism, David Belin, executive director of the Rockefeller Commission and formerly a counsel to the Warren Commission — whose lone-gunman theory he vigorously defends—said in a telephone interview that he thinks Dr. Wecht's testimony may be made public in a week or so.

And he acknowledged that perhaps some of Dr. Wecht's testimony could be considered to have been taken out of context.

"But the scope of this Investigation was limited to whether or not the CIA was involved," Belin said. "We didn't get into the issue of who fired the shots, or how many were fired. Only whether or not any (shots) were fired from in front of the President or from the right-front. There had been allegations that CIA people (Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis) had been seen in such positions.

"Dr. Wecht agreed that no shots were fired from the President's front and has written as much in magazine articles," Belin went on. "Much of what we attributed to him in our report came from those magazine articles."

Belin acknowledged that Dr. Wecht believes President Kennedy was shot by two gunmen from the rear, but he said that such a view did not pertain to the Rockefeller investigation.

"There have been no allegations that CIA people were seen to the President's rear," Belin said, "and it was not in the commission's charter to reopen a widespread investigation into every aspect of the assassination."

Dr. Wecht heatedly takes issue with Belin's statement.

"In the report just issued," he says, "we find in the section on this subject that the commission went we l beyond that point (of possible CIA involvement), discussing evidentiary aspects of the case which suggest that Lee Harvey Oswald was the sole assassin, and citing various medical experts to bolster that claim."

## *Distortion Charged*

"It is a distortion to suggest," he added, "on the basis of a selected portion of my testimony, that I concur with the commission's implied defense of the Warren Report when the great bulk of my testimony was directly to the opposite effect," he said.

"Nor can the commission justify its neglect of my other testimony on the ground that it lay outside its purposes of investigating only the question of CIA involvement, when, in fact, its report went considerably beyond that question."

Although Dr. Wecht says they have never met, he and Belin have been vigorous and unfriendly adversaries on the assassination question for the past decade.

"David Belin is the leading apologist for the Warren Report," Dr. Wecht said. "He has written a book staunchly defending the single-bullet-lone-assassin theories, and and investigation he is involved in will certainly be self-serving to that end."

Dr. Wecht said that many of the witnesses called before the Rockefeller Commission to testify about the Kennedy assassination also had appeared before the Warren Commission and had participated in the compilation of that report.

"To review and evaluate the original ballistics tests on bullets and fragments found in both the President and John Connally (then governor of Texas), the Rockefeller Commission calls in the guy, Dr. Alfred Olivier, who did the original ballistics study," Dr. Wecht said. "That's their objective investigation and they think they will get away with methods like

that. And what the hell does that have to do with the CIA?"

Dr. Wecht says he feels that the Rockefeller Commission delved into the Kennedy assassination as far as it could safely go and maintain the accuracy of the Warren report, whether there was CIA involvement or not.

"And out of the one-third of a million attorneys in this country, of all the great legal minds, who does President Ford choose to head up the work?" Dr. Wecht asks. "A small-town, small-time corporate attorney from Des Moines, the number one legal sycophant in America who, like President Ford, has written a book defending the Warren report."

"David Belin may be a good husband and father, a delightful bridge partner and a good guy to play golf with on the weekends, but he has no professional integrity where the Kennedy assassination is concerned and that's why he allowed the fraudulent dstortion of the only testimony challenging him and the Warren report.

"He knows I can cram the single-bullet, lone-assassin theory right down his . . . throat."